

**SCDOT Seeks Public Comment on Revisions
To FY 2015 Federal-Aid Funding Plan**

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) is seeking comment from the public on proposed revisions to the **Fiscal Year 2015 Federal-Aid Funding Plan** resulting from a federal penalty imposed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

On October 1, 2014 State Act 158, entitled Emma's Law, went into effect which strengthened South Carolina's DUI laws. State Act 158 also allows repeat offenders who are issued an ignition interlock restricted license to drive vehicles owned by their employers in the course and scope of their employment without the use of an ignition interlock device. Consequently, NHTSA and FHWA notified SCDOT on December 1, 2014 that the state law was not compliant with federal repeat intoxicated driver requirements.

As a result of noncompliance with federal requirements, a 2.5% penalty has been applied to the National Highway Performance Program (NHPP) and Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds. The noncompliance penalty does not result in a loss of funds to the State. Instead, the penalty results in a set aside of \$14 million in penalty transfer funds that must be dedicated specifically for safety programs.

To reflect the penalty in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), the FY 2015 Federal-Aid Funding Plan has been revised to reduce the following categories by 2.5% that include NHPP and STP funding. The reductions were applied proportionally based on previous budgets in the Bridge, Interstate, Pavement/Reconstruction, and the Urban and Rural System Upgrade Programs. The \$14 million in penalty transfer funds will be included in the State Highway Safety Improvement Program to advance DUI reduction and enforcement initiatives and other eligible federal safety projects. The penalty transfer funds are 100% federal and the associated state match of approximately \$3.5 million that was previously included in the FY 2015 Federal-Aid Funding Plan will be applied to other state program activities.

A copy of this press release and the revised 2015 Federal-Aid Funding Plan are available for public review and comment until **March 12, 2015** on the world web at:

http://www.scdot.org/inside/public_comment.aspx

To assist those who do not have internet access, a hard copy of this press release and any supporting information are available for public review and comment at the following locations:

**South Carolina Council of Governments:
Appalachian Council of Governments**
Anderson, Cherokee, Greenville,
Oconee, Pickens & Spartanburg
30 Century Circle
Greenville, SC 29606
(864) 242-9733

Lower Savannah Council of Governments
Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun &
Orangeburg
2748 Wagener Road
Hwy 302 North
Aiken, SC 29801
(803) 649-7981

Upper Savannah Council of Governments

Santee-Lynches Council of Governments

Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens,
McCormick & Saluda
222 Phoenix Street, Suite 200
Greenwood, SC 29646
(864) 941-8090

Catawba Regional Council of Governments

Chester, Lancaster, York & Union
215 Hampton Street
Second Floor
Rock Hill, SC 29731
(803) 327-1912

Central Midlands Council of Governments

Fairfield, Lexington, Newberry & Richland
236 Stoneridge Drive
Columbia, SC 29210
(803) 376-5390

**Waccamaw Regional Planning and Development
Council of Governments**

Georgetown, Horry & Williamsburg
1230 Highmarket Street
Georgetown, SC 29440
(843) 546-8502

SCDOT District Offices:

District 1

1400 Shop Road
Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 737-6660

District 3

252 S. Pleasantburg Drive
Greenville, SC 29607
(864) 241-1010

District 5

3018 East Palmetto
Florence, SC 29506
(843) 661-4710

District 7

US Route 178 East Bowman Road
Orangeburg, SC 29116
(803) 531-6850

Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee & Sumter
36 West Liberty Street
Sumter, SC 29151
(803) 775-7381

Pee Dee Regional Council of Governments

Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Marion &
Marlboro
2319 Regional Road
Florence, SC 29501
(843) 669-4392

Lowcountry Council of Governments

Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton & Jasper
634 Campground Road
Yemassee, SC 29945
(843) 726-5536

**Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of
Governments**

Berkeley, Charleston & Dorchester
1362 McMillan Ave, Suite 100
North Charleston, SC 29405
(843) 529-0400

District 2

510 W. Alexander Ave.
Greenwood, SC 29646
(864) 227-6971

District 4

1232 J.A. Cochran Bypass
Chester, SC 29706
(803) 377-4155

District 6

6355 Fain Blvd.
North Charleston, SC 29406
(843) 740-1665

Comments will be accepted until the close of business on **March 12, 2015** and should be forwarded to Ms. Vivian Patterson, Public Involvement Manager, [SCDOT](#) Office of Planning, 955 Park Street, P.O. Box 191, Columbia, S.C. 29202 or pattersovm@scdot.org.

NOTE: Information provided, including name and address, is subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.